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041853Z Jun 04

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 001397

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: GUATEMALA WILL EXPRESS SUPPORT OF INTERIM IRAQUI GOVERNMENT

REF: SECSTATE 121718

1. On June 4, the Ambassador delivered reftel points to Foreign Minister Jorge Briz and Interior Minister Arturo Soto. The Ambassador urged the GOG to express support for the Interim Iraqi Government (IIG) bilaterally in a diplomatic note and in coordination with other Central American countries. Briz enthusiastically agreed and told the Ambassador that the Ministry would work towards a statement the same day through the Central American Integration System (SICA).

2. MFA Director General for Multilateral Affairs Carla Rodriguez also told PolOff on June 3 that the GOG will be unable to offer donations or any material support for Iraq at this time due to budget restraints.
HAMILTON